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Lisbon, May 8. N. S.

ON the 2d of this month, a Fleet of Merchant Ships, under Convoy of 5 Engliſh Men of War and a Fireſhip, arrived here from England. The 4th being St. George's Day, and the Anniverſary of Her Majeſty of Great Britain's Succeſſion to the Crown, it was Celebrated on Board the Fleet with all poſſible Demonſtrations of Joy and Affection for Her Majeſty's Perſon and Government, and there was a general Diſcharge of all the great Guns on Board all the Engliſh and Dutch Men of War. The 5th, four Engliſh Men of War came into this River from England. This Afternoon Sir George Rooke ſailed out of our Harbour with the Fleet under his Command, having on Board the Prince of Heſſe Darmſtadt, two Companies of Foot made up of Spaniſh Deſerters, as alſo as many Spaniſh Officers who are come over to us, as will be ſufficient to Command 2 Regiments. It is ſaid, That the Fleet is to ſail directly for the Streights, and that they are to Land the Pr. of Heſſe Darmſtadt, and the Spaniſh Forces abovementioned in Catalonia, where all things appear very well diſpoſed towards an Inſurrection in favour of their King Charles III. His Majeſty and the King of Portugal intended to have ſet out from hence this day for the Army, but upon ſome Alteration that has been made in the Deſigns for carrying on the War, they have put off their Departure till next Week. It is [illegible]olved, That we ſhall attempt to enter into Spain by the Province of Abeira, and all the neceſſary Preparations are making for that purpoſe. Our Ingeniers, with the Train of Artillery, are gone down by Water to Abrantes, in order to proceed from thence towards Guarda, where the general Rendezvous of the Army is appointed to be; all the Auxilliary Forces which were in the Province of Alentejo, being already in motion towards that Town, as well as the greateſt part of the Portugueſe Army; ſo that it is not doubted but by the 20th of this month they will all be upon the Frontiers of Abeira, and in a readineſs to enter into Spain. The principal Advantages of opening the Campaign on that ſide, are, That the Climate being much Cooler, the Forces will not be obliged to go into Quarters of Refreſhment during the hotteſt Months, as they muſt have done had they marched into Eſtramadura; and that if our Army once gets beyond Cindad Rodrigo, they will then come into an open flat Country, very fruitful, and the beſt furniſhed of any in Spain with all manner of Proviſions both for Man and Horſe. By our laſt Advices from Spain, The Duke of Anjou continued ſtill at Placentia, and every thing there was in the ſame Condition as before, none of the Grandees being come to him, beſides thoſe who having Offices in his Houſhold, could not excuſe themſelves from attending him. We have a Report this Afternoon, That the Spaniſh Troops are in Motion near Alcantara and Valenca, with a Deſign either upon Salvatarra in Abeira, or Caſtel de Vide, or Portalegre in Alentejo, but it wants Confirmation. The King of Portugal has lately publiſhed two Manifeſto's; one in Latin, To juſtifie to the whole World his taking up Arms to reſtore the Liberty of the Spaniſh Nation oppreſſed by the Power of France, and to Aſſert the Right of his Catholick Majeſty Charles III. to that Monarchy; the other in Spaniſh, Addreſſed more particularly to that Nation; containing a Juſtification of his Majeſty's Reſolution to aſſiſt them in ſhaking of the French Yoke, and in placeing upon the Throne their Lawful King Charles the III. His Catholick Majeſty has alſo publiſhed a Declaration, ſetting forth his Title to the Crown of Spain, and promiſing a Pardon to all ſuch of his Subjects as will Declare for him within three Months time. His Grace the Duke of Schomberg, Captain General of Her Majeſty's Forces in Portugal, has likewiſe iſſued a Proclamation, declaring, That all Iriſh and others Her Majeſty's Subjects, both Officers and Soldiers, who are at preſent in the Service of the French King, or the Duke of Anjou, and will return to their Duty, and come over to the King of Spain, or any other of Her Majeſty's Allies, ſhall have Her Majeſty's moſt Gracious Pardon for all Crimes and Offences committed by them in Adhereing to, or Serving under Her Enemies; and that ſuch of them as are qualified to Serve in Her Majeſty's Forces, ſhall be received and entertained in the ſame Quality as they enjoy'd in the Service they leave; and that ſuch as by reaſon of their Religion cannot Serve in Her Majeſty's Forces, ſhall be received and entertained in the Service of the King of Spain, or ſuch other of Her Majeſty's Allies where they ſhall beſt like, in the ſame Quality, and with the ſame Pay, as they enjoy'd under Her Majeſty's Enemies.

Rome, April 26. The Cardinal Legat of Ferrara has ſent Advice to the Pope; That the Imperialiſts ſince their quitting of Revere, have poſted part of their Forces within the Ferrareze. An Expreſs arrived here two days ago from France, being diſpatched by the Cardinal d'Etrees, to acquaint the Pope with the Death of the Cardinal de Furſtemberg; and that the Abbey of St. Germains, which is worth 35000 Crowns a year, being thereby become Vacant, the French King had beſtowed it upon him: By this Cardinal's Death, there are now 15 Places vacant in the College of Cardinals, yet we do not hear that the Pope does hitherto entertain any Thoughts of making a new Promotion. Cardinal Durazzo is dangerouſly ill, and it is believed by reaſon of his great Age, that he will hardly recover. The Count de Laquas arrived here ſome days ago from Poland, with a Commiſſion from that King to the Pope, of whom he has had ſeveral Audiences. There is Advice, That a Bark belonging to Segna, one of the Imperial Ports in the Adriatick Sea, being at Runino, a Sea-Port Town in the Pope's Dominions, lading ſome Goods, two French Ships came and ſeized her there; which Violence in a Neutral Place, has given great Offence to this Court; And Seignior Corſini, has thereupon been ſent with an Ingenier to view all the Sea-Ports belonging to this State, in order to their being put into a Condition to protect all ſuch Ships as ſhall come thither. The Duke of Monteleone is lately arrived from Naples, and has been to wait upon the Pope, to return him Thanks for the Promotion of his Brother Pignatelli to the Dignity of a Cardinal, and to the Archbiſhoprick of Naples, and will ſhortly leave this Place, intending to proceed to Spain. Letters from Naples of the 22th paſt ſay, A general Review had lately been taken of all the Forces in that Kingdom, and particularly of two new raiſed Regiments of Foot which are to be ſent from thence into Spain.

Plimouth,